


*the*  
**ONYX**  
*informer*

**MAY  
2001**



*Serving the people of  
the African Diaspora...  
since 1972*

# NU Students Take Over Boston City Streets

By: Desiar Brown  
Dnyx Contributor

Thirty years after Northeastern University submitted to black student demands, and built the John D. D'Bryant African American Institute, current black students are protesting to keep it a freestanding building. Students have staged a 30-day occupation of the Institute in protest of the University's desire to demolish the Institute, for the expansion of West Campus. In a private meeting with administrators and student leaders, President Richard Freeland decided to relocate the building with its existing address, in lieu of student protest.

"For the past three years, the University has been developing West Campus as a site for major new facilities. As this process has proceeded, it has become necessary to consider the future of several older buildings, among the structures that must be reviewed is the building that houses the John D. D'Bryant African American Institute," President Freeland said in a statement released last Thursday. "In setting forth the exciting vision of a new home and

strengthened programs for the John D. D'Bryant African American Institute, we celebrate the legacy of African Americans on this campus and across the country and the man who played



The student lead rally shut down Mass. Avenue in all direction during evening rush hour. There was an estimated crowd of 800 individuals who participated in the rally.

an important role in the history of the University and the city of Boston."

While space-planning for the Institute's new home begins this Fall, the estimated 18 months of construction on the new Institute is slated to begin in 2004 after the completion of

another new site in West Campus. The "multifaceted facility" will be given almost 350 extra square feet.

Although the President addressed a few of the student demands to add an Institute representative to the University's Urban Outreach Council and maintain custodial care and monitoring of the building until its demolition, his decision slighted students' top demand to sustain the institute as a freestanding building and to inform them of details concerning the Institute's fate.

"This building will be demolished, the new Institute will be relocated to this location, that is a victory," protest leader and sophomore Justin Brown told over a hundred applauding students crowding the Institute's first floor, awaiting the President and his decision. "But the occupation will continue. The fight will be intensified, because of disappointment, non-compliance and lack of detail about what will be happening. Everything is very vague, and that's insulting to everybody in this room, black, white, brown and red. They had too much time to come up with some ideas to

See Institute pg 5

## When Moral Obligations Aren't Enough

By Princess Cooper-Brown  
Dnyx Staff

Beneficiaries of slave labor have moral responsibilities to pay. At least that's what the German Industry agreed to, according to an article in the March 17<sup>th</sup> 2001, issue of The Economist. In the summer of 2000, German negotiators and lawyers for victims of slave labor reached an agreement. The aim of this agreement

was for Germany to make amends to the estimated 1 million survivors from the Nazi-era (the 1939-1945 war). Individuals are supposed to receive DM15,000 apiece if they worked in concentration camps, and DM 5,000 for working in factories.

The agreement stipulates that German businesses will voluntarily raise DM5 billion (\$2.3 billion), and German government will contribute another DM5 billion.

However, moral accountability was

not the only mitigating factor in this past summer's deliberations. The last provision was completely political: the United States will issue a "statement of interest" for U.S. courts to dismiss all pending and future claims against German companies suspected of benefiting from forced labor. This last provision was included to dispel the fear that more class action suits brought against German banks or businesses were by former laborers; actions that threaten to ruin German

See Obligations pg 4

## Message from the Director of the African-American Institute

I have had the good fortune of listening to numerous students (and others) recently express a myriad of views about a variety of issues regarding the John D. D' Bryant African-American Institute. Whether the comments have been informed or not, their intensity has convinced me that some of our assumptions about student apathy and complacency need to be revised to reflect demonstrated student interest and involvement.

Student leaders announced the end of their sit-in this week. I understand their motivation for protesting for a freestanding building and their disappointment at not achieving that important goal. However, I am proud and deeply appreciative of the commitment to the Institute of student

leaders and their supporters. While some may disagree with the means used by the students, I believe that many agree with the end toward which the means were aimed. My concern now is that we unify around a common goal and the necessary steps to achieve it so that the students' efforts will not be marginalized or made to appear inconsequential.

One guiding principle for our common goal should be an awareness of the work and vision of the founders of the Institute. A second should be the Mission Statement of the Institute. Its service provision and collaboration, vital to the recruitment, retention, and graduation of students of African origin at the University, are central to its message. So is the enhancement of

the Black presence at Northeastern and the University's relationship to the broader community. Another source of direction should be the Aspirations of the University, especially their emphasis on access, diversity, student-centeredness and an urban mission.

A final source should emanate from a report I submitted to the Institute's Strategic Planning Group for review, with a revised copy forwarded to President Freeland and Provost David Hall. Entitled, "The John D. D' Bryant African-American Institute: Expanded Program and Space Projections," it offers a rationale for space, staff, and resource expansion. Anticipating a Black student enrollment increase of at least 10%, the

## 2001 Unity Award Winners

- 2001 Organization of the Year**  
The Black Engineering Student Society
- Fine Arts Award**  
Marchelle Jacques
- Reggie Lewis Athletic Award**  
Nikiya Reid and Tororris Hel
- Ujima Scholars Achievement Award**  
Candace Watkins, Elizabeth Johnson, and William Wissing
- Ujima Scholars Advancement Award**  
Kimberlee Hicks and Ain Leyba-Tripps
- Ralph J. Bunche Scholars Award**  
Cornelius Gault
- Senior Academic Excellence Award**  
Sarita Thomas
- Nguzo Award**  
Ibiere Seck, Ellis Reid, Justin Brown, Shaffa Golafole, Ponlee Aboyeji, and Charles Joyner
- Kwanzaa Award**  
Adrian Townsend
- Institute Director's Award**  
James Francois and Tyeese Gaines
- Distinguished Faculty Award**  
Dr. Tony Martin (Wellesley College)
- Special Recognition Award**  
Intellectual Group: Group members are Nkechi Enere, Jinja Bailey, Dawnesha Batts, Judi Brown, Ifeanyi Aguojl, Twyla Perrin, Nema Jackson, Elizabeth Mullin
- The African-American Institute Scholarship Award**  
Tanus Carter, Porsha Hammond, Justin Brown, Seliat Dosunmu, Janiaal Thomas, Ifeanyi Aguojl,

See Awards pg 4

directory	WORLD WISE	PG. 3	SPEAK OUT	PG. 10	THE HATER	PG. 14
	BUSINESS	PG. 6	SOUL SPEECH	PG. 11	DID YOU KNOW	PG. 15
	HEALTH	PG. 9	MS. NUBIAN	PG. 13	SPORTS	PG. 16





# ONYX WORLD WISE

Injustice anywhere is a threat  
to justice everywhere

- Martin Luther King

## Around the Globe

**HAITI** - Scenes of civil unrest were visible on March 27, as protestors set tires ablaze in the streets of Haiti's capital. In the first major protest since Jean-Bernard Aristide took over the country scores of pro government and opposition supporters clashed in the streets in the capital and provincial cities.

Many observers fear that the violent clashes will topple Aristide's government that was installed this past February. Guns were fired in front of the opposition headquarters and at least one opposition party member and two other leaders were shot according to reporters on the scene. Heavily armed riot police managed to break-up the protest that later resumed with Aristide supporters throwing stones (Haitian Times).

**NIGERIA** - Nigeria has bought in the recent months, nine Russian-made attack helicopters at a reported cost of \$100 million. The six Mi-35 helicopters and three Mi-34 helicopters will keep Nigeria in the position of West Africa's largest military leader. According to The Vanguard, the country's daily newspaper, the helicopters were ordered by the country's previous military regime (NYT) April 5.

**UNITED NATIONS** - AIDS is hitting women the hardest. A report issued by the U.N. Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) stated that women are the hardest hit by the disease. The CSW urged all governments to take all necessary measures to empower women, strengthen their economic independence, and protect and promote their human rights and fun-

damental freedoms in order to allow them to better protect themselves from HIV/AIDS.

"The pandemic requires the transformation of relations between women and men to eliminate gender inequality and reduce the risk of infection," said U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan.

Seventy percent of worldwide infection occurs through unprotected sexual intercourse, according to Annan's 2001 report on HIV/AIDS and gender discrimination (Haitian Times).

**MOSCOW** - The trial of a U.S. exchange student charged with selling marijuana in a central Russian city will open April 24.

Fulbright scholar John Tobin could face between eight and 15 years in prison if convicted, Andrei Makarov an investigator with the Federal Security Service in the city of Voronezh said, according to the ITAR-Tass and Interfax news agencies.

Security service spokesman Pavel Bolshunov said Tobin could appeal to President Vladimir Putin for pardon, or could be extradited to serve his sentence in the United States, Interfax news agency reported. (AP) April 6.

Tobin, a 24-year-old from Ridgefield, Conn., was arrested last month on charges of drug possession, but was later accused of dealing drugs, then of dealing drugs as part of a criminal gang. (AP) April 6.

**CONGO** - Nearly three months after succeeding his assassinated father, President Joseph Kabila has dismissed his entire cabinet, according to an official statement read on state television. Mr. Kabila, who left

on a visit to Germany after the announcement, had retained most of his father's ministers, and cabinet members were said to have been fighting fiercely against one another to survive an expected shakeout. (NYT) April 6.

**SOUTH AFRICA** - The government has decided to continue to base its AIDS programs on "the premise that H.I.V. causes AIDS" after reviewing a preliminary report from a panel of international scientists, health officials said. The panel was convened by President Thabo Mbeki last year after he questioned whether H.I.V.

causes AIDS and the safety of anti-AIDS drugs. After stirring a furor, Mr. Mbeki withdrew from the debate and this year his government began distributing anti-AIDS drugs to pregnant mothers infected with H.I.V. (NYT) April 6.

**CUBA** - Eight United States students from poor families began studying medicine in Cuba yesterday thanks to six-year full scholarships offered by President Fidel Castro. They enrolled at the Latin American School of Medical Sciences outside Havana. The Cuban leader offered the scholarships last year during a meeting with members of the Congressional Black Caucus. (NYT) April 6.

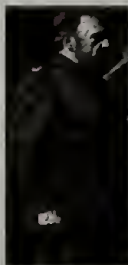
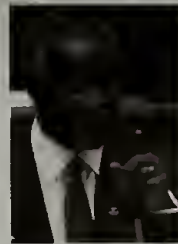
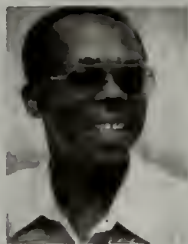
**CANADA** - Caribbean Community and Common Market (CARICOM) government leaders go to this month's Summit of the Americas in Canada with a

plan of action which they hope will be funded by international financial institutions, a spokesman said Thursday. Finance Ministers from the Caribbean and other Western Hemisphere states, set the agenda for the April 20 to 22 summit during a preparatory meeting that ended in Toronto April 4. Antigua and Barbuda's point man on financial services, Sir Ronald Sanders, who attended that meeting, told CANA the ministers looked at money laundering, regulation and supervision of the financial sector, and the promotion of integration in the region, as well as the mechanisms by which that can be achieved. (CANA) April 5.

**JAMAICA** - The Jamaica government is moving to intensify its campaign against the Human Immuno-deficiency Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS). It is embarking on a public education program, which will be supported by the political directorate, opinion shapers and other sector leaders in the country. Minister of Information, Senator Maxine Henry Wilson told journalists at the weekly post-Cabinet press briefing at Jamaica House Tuesday, that the disease had reached epidemic proportions in Jamaica, with 40 persons per 1,000 infected. The Caribbean has the second highest incidence of HIV/AIDS in the world and the highest in the Americas, she added. (CANA) April 5.

Reports from the Haitian Times, Caribbean News Agency (CANA), Washington Post, New York Times, and the Associated Press were used to compile these briefs.

Compiled By: Tania Dall



Are you looking for something to do this Fall '01???  
Well the Onyx Informer has just the thing for you...we are currently looking for individuals who want to design web pages, graphic design artist, writers, reporters, photographers, and people who want to display their skills on a major level

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# Up Close and Personal

## An Interview with Garland McLaughlin: African-American Institute Librarian

Garland McLaughlin serves as the Librarian in the John D. O'Bryant African-American Institute. Recently Naa-Solo Tettey had an opportunity to have an Up Close and Personal talk with him. McLaughlin grew up in Salisbury, North Carolina during the peak of the Civil Rights Movement. He remembers vividly his experiences in trying to integrate an all-white high school in North Carolina, and he remembers having to fight for a seat on the bus and in a restaurant and seeing the turmoil and despair that black people had to endure to gain their God given civil rights. He felt that he could make his contributions to this world by using his love for books as a catalyst for

getting a masters in library science and using that to give back to the black community. McLaughlin spoke with the ONYX Informer about his thoughts regarding the Institute, the black college experience, and his love for books.

**Naa-Solo:** How do you feel about the possibility that the John D. O'Bryant African American Institute being torn down?

**McLaughlin:** I used to come to the Institute when I started working in Boston. It reminded me of the sense of family and closeness that you can find at a historically black college or university. I feel that tearing down the Institute will be a great injustice to the people of color on Northeastern university's Campus and in general. For them to even consider tear-

ing down the Institute shows us that although we have come a long way, we still have a ways to go.

**Naa-Solo:** What is your advice to the students who face losing the only place on campus that they can identify with?

**McLaughlin:** The students need to fight in a civil way to show their love for the Institute and to prove to the administration that the JDOAAI is more than just a building. It is time for the black students on this campus to take a stand! It is bad enough that syllabuses do not even include black books, as if black people



McLaughlin believes that black students here at NU need to take a stand for what they believe in

don't write

**Naa-Solo:** How do you feel about the black students on this campus who do not want to get involved in the fight after all you and our ancestors have been through to bring us this far?

**McLaughlin:** It's appalling. After all of the situations that we all had to deal with for us to make the progress that we have today, some people have the nerve just not to care. Black students, not just at NU, are not forceful enough to act on getting the things they want and should have. I am not saying burn down a building or start a fight, but do not just sit there and do nothing.

**Naa-Solo:** What is a major difference that you see in attending a school like Northeastern University, and attending a Historically Black College or

University.

**McLaughlin:** At the Historically Black Colleges and Universities the entire campus belongs to them, instead of just one building. All of the students are given the opportunity to feel welcome. This is why the JDOAAI is so important. The Institute represents this same atmosphere of comfort and familiarity. The JDOAAI is a microcosm of a black college campus. It is a vital asset for the well being of the minority students who attend Northeastern University. At the College that I attended, the president always informed the staff, faculty and students of the decisions that were being made by him and the trustees. In this way, the campus retained it's family-like atmosphere.

**Naa-Solo:** What would you like to accomplish during your time here at the Institute?

**McLaughlin:** I hope to instill in the young people here the importance of reading and show them the wealth of knowledge that is in this library. I would also like to increase the number of volumes that we carry.

**Naa-Solo:** What is the one book that you recommend black students read before they graduate?

**McLaughlin:** There are so many! If I had to choose one it would be Black Skin White Mask by Franz Fanon. This book would prepare students for the world that they are going to face after they graduate. It would tell black students about themselves in terms of their place in society, how others perceive them, and how they see themselves.

**Naa-Solo:** What would you say is the most defining moment in your life?

**McLaughlin:** My trip to Ghana, West Africa would have to be one of my

greatest experiences. Even with the hardships, the people there were content with what they had. It was inspiring to see an unending sea of black people. I recommend this journey to all African-Americans. I was told I would have a culture shock when I arrived in Ghana, but I did not have the culture shock until I came back to the U.S.

**Naa-Solo:** What advice would you give to black students about the college experience?

**McLaughlin:** Enjoy yourself; this is one experience that you will never have again. This is a time of self discovery, forming friendships that will last forever, and above all else, learning. Education is very important; it is the ultimate key to success. The students must remember that as they learn they have to continue to pass it on to the next generation.

## Obligations from pg 2

industry's image abroad, particularly in the United States.

Germany has not been the only one owning up to its moral obligations. The 80,000 surviving Americans of Japanese origin receiving \$1.6 billion in reparations (\$20,000 each) for their internment and loss of property during 1942 when 110,000 were labeled as security risk through the Civil Liberties Act of 1988. Some Native American nations, such as the Sioux, have received land and education rights as reparations for their mistreatment and land seizure. Yet, neither the survivors of slavery nor their descendants have received any sort of acceptable compensation over 130 years later.

Political pressures build in the United States and it may not be to soon before its climax. "On January 1<sup>st</sup>, a law will come into effect in that state [California] which obliges American insurance firms to co-operate with investigations into insurance policies that the slave owners... took out on their 'property'" (as reported in The Economist, December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2000). Companies such as, Aetna (America's largest insurer), Ace, and New York Life, are being asked to reveal their policies written to insure slaves. If any of the policies were claimed, the money would have gone to the owner and not to the family of the slave. Incomplete and inconsistent records make it unclear which, if any, policies were claimed or remain unclaimed. The ramifications of these investigations could lead to lawsuits from those seeking reparations and insurers may have to cough it up.

There is moral pressure on the federal government from descendants to follow through on its Reconstruction Era promise of 40 acres and a mule. Political pressure from states like Massachusetts, Michigan and Pennsylvania have already introduced supportive legislation for reparations add to that, are the concerns from U.S. businesses about their bottom line, and it all just may be the catalyst to close the matter of reparation.

## Tate Convicted

By: Naa-Solo Tettey  
Onyx Staff

Fourteen year-old Lionel Tate was sentenced to life in prison for the 1999 killing of 6-year-old Tiffany Eunick. Judge Joel Lazarus rejected pleas for a reduction in sentence or a new trial. Lazarus stated "The jury has spoken loudly and unanimously, and I am convinced that they are correct." Lazarus also said that there was no doubt in his mind that Lionel knew what he was doing when he killed Tiffany. He went on to say "Lionel Tate's guilt is clear, obvious and undisputed."

One hundred sixty-six pound Lionel Tate was convicted in January, of killing the 48-pound Tiffany, while he practiced professional wrestling moves on her. The jury ruled that the beating that killed Tiffany constituted child abuse.

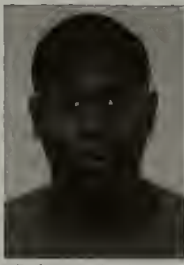
Lionel's mother had previously rejected a plea that was offered by the prosecution that would have given Lionel a sentence of three years in juvenile hall, one year of house arrest

and 10 years of probation and counseling. Lionel's attorney, Jim Lewis, tried to prove to the judge and jury that his sentence should be reduced because neither Lionel nor his mother understood the ramifications of not taking the deal and instead going to trial.

Tate will live in an individual cell in a unit, which houses 16 inmates.

Lionel's mother will only be allowed to see him on weekends. Lionel's attorney stated that he is likely to be in the juvenile prison for some time before any action is taken on the requests for clemency or a new trial.

Prosecutors have said they will not oppose a commutation of a lighter sentence by Governor Jeb Bush, although they are arguing for the mandatory sentence. Pending any action from Bush or an appeals court, Lionel will remain in the maximum security Okeechobee facility until he is 18. At that time, he will be transferred to an adult prison to serve the rest of his life sentence.



Tate is a recent prison photograph

## Awards from page 2

Vanessa Hogg, Neza Terranova  
Vision Award  
Sister Morrison  
JDOAAI Service Award  
Cynthia Massiah, Shanell Caldwell, Tanar C. Hill, Britanni Johnson, Ifeanyi Agbo, Anthony B. Ilyps, Chanel Rose, Monique Guiles, Marc Miles, Yolinda Jackson, Tamara A. Johnson, Raquel and Nemi Jackson, Marlene Steele, Osara A. Johnson, Berild V. Johnson, Steve Black, J. and Scott Land, N.asha Bruce, Octavia R. Taylor, Dana Benton, Andre Jean-Francois, Nicole Cook, Ginger Brook Omari Patterson, Rochelle Andrews, Leitra Richards, Karuna Hassan, James Francois, Iyese Gaines

The 28th Annual Unity & Awards Banquet was held on May 6th, 2001. This banquet is held each year in order to recognize the many students and faculty members who show supportive support to the Institute and higher learning. For more information about the Unity Awards feel free to contact the John D. O'Bryant African-American Institute at (617) 373-3143



# NBSA President Calls for Student Support

Ibiere Seck is the current president of the Northeastern Black Student Association (NBSA). Onyx reporter Naa-Solo Tettey, had an opportunity to speak to Ibiere about the issues facing the Institute's future earlier this month.

**Naa-Solo:** What does the Institute mean to you?

**Ibiere:** The Institute is a home for me. It is my identity on this campus. It represents who I am culturally, and serves as a foundation for me to grow. It is the reason I am here at NU.

**Naa-Solo:** What do you think about the NU News article "Where is my Institute"?

**Ibiere:** I think that a lot of people were annoyed, but it demonstrates how people of European ancestry feel about the Institute. They do not understand it's historical significance.

**Naa-Solo:** How do you feel about the media coverage thus far?

**Ibiere:** The media coverage has been extremely positive, from all areas. Radio, newspapers, and TV networks have been coming on a daily basis.

**Naa-Solo:** What do you have to say to the black faculty and staff that do not want to get involved?

**Ibiere:** I feel that this is a lesson in life for many of the students. It is important for them to set a positive example and support us in everything we do. We need and want their support.

**Naa-Solo:** What do you have to say to President Freeland?

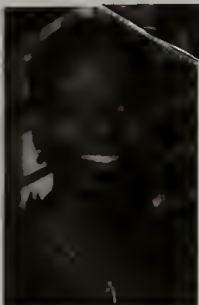
**Ibiere:** The Institute is important to black students and the NU campus as a whole. The future of black students depends on whether the Institute remains.

**Naa-Solo:** What is the ideal situation that you would have liked to see come out of all of this?

**Ibiere:** For the Institute to be remodeled and renovated in it's current location.

**Naa-Solo:** Is there anything you would like to say to the students?

**Ibiere:** I hope we can get as much support as we can from the students on campus to join us in our struggle. They can do this, by speaking out against the demolition, spreading the word about the occupation, joining us here overnight, and making it clear to President Freeland and the NU community, that the Institute is our livelihood.



Ibiere and many other student leaders feel that the struggle to save the Institute continues even after Freeland's decision

## From the Editors

We wanted to take some time in this last issue to give a special and much appreciated Thank You to the Onyx staff for enduring a year of transition and unrest. As well as going through a year of making many new changes within the organization. Our success has prevailed. We would like to personally thank all of our contributors: MAPS, NSBE, YOBE.

Many thanks to Mr. Victor Rosa for all of your support. You have helped us to construct a newspaper full of strong and meaningful statements.

Dave Coleman, thanks for helping us establish The Onyx Informer's new look.

Special thanks to Jenerra Williams for supportive counsel as well as constructive criticism.

Thank you Dean Lula Petty-Edwards of the John D. O'Bryant African-American Institute, who always has confidence in Northeastern's Black voice on campus.

We express thanks to all of our readers for your support. You continue to inspire us to give you the full story... to all of our critics, all your feedback was well appreciated... to all organizations who helped us serve the people of the African Diaspora.

A final thank you goes out to Jim McKellar our media advisor and everyone with Student Activities for all their guidance and help this year.

Sincerely,

Alitheia Casimir  
Andre Jean-Francois

## Institute from pg 2

not tell us what they are going to do."

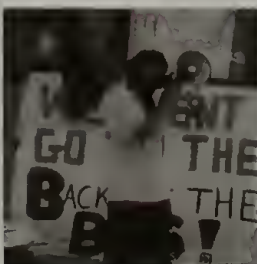
Students, hurt by the President's tardiness to the meeting and refusal to face them, began chanting "ain't no power, like the power of the people, cause the power of the people don't stop."

"The President's late and he has totally ignored us," said student Siaffa Golafaie. "He's been underhanded during the whole process. He's disrespected us and we should turn our backs on him totally if he keeps disrespecting us. How is he promoting diversity if he refuses to address our issues."

Political science major and senior Cyrus McQueen said "this university said I was not college material, but with the help of this building I have been on the Dean's list every quarter since I've been here. I don't know what President Freeland has planned to give me that the Institute hasn't already provided me, which is a college experience and a college degree."

Brown and other leaders led the students outside the building into the parking lot. While students clustered around the windows of the office, where the meeting was held and the President lingered, the chanting continued.

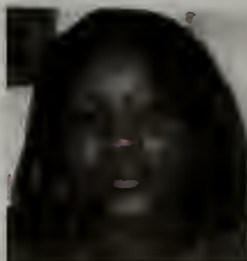
"What we have to do is make this as political as possible," Brown told them. "We've been disrespected, spit in the face and disappointed, but we



Justin Brown, speaks to protesters after Freeland announced that the Institute will be razed.

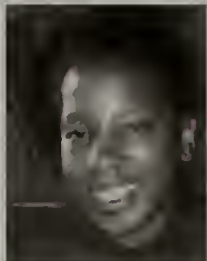
# ONYX Question?

## What does the Institute mean to you?



"It means that the NU Community as well as students of the African Diaspora are blessed, to have a place such as the John D. O'Bryant African American Institute.

Yvette Joy Harris  
NU Grad Student



"I see the Institute as an intellectual center for the black community. I see this attack on the Institute, as an attack on black people on all college campuses.

Zhe Linrentice Scott  
MIT Senior



"The Institute is a symbol that black people have fought for and have gained something, even though we still have a long way to go."

Keith Little  
NU Middler



"It provides a sense of security and opportunities. It is a place that many successful people have emerged from, and to be a part of that is immaculate."

Anthony Barksdale  
NU Junior

## Interviews by Naa-Solo Tettey Photographs by Princess Cooper Brown

haven't conceded defeat yet. We don't have to leave here too sad, but mad as hell. I will not let this situation die."

Around 7 p.m., President Freeland left the building with an entourage of four men.

There he is," shouted one student, and the crowd began following the President to his car. As he neared the side of the Arts and Sciences Building to the left of the Institute, President Freeland broke into a run. Several students followed him, while the rest of the crowd spilled onto Huntington Street blocking traffic both ways, as well as the T.

"No more back of the bus, save the Institute for us," chanted students, while holding the traffic back with banners reading "we're not going to

the back of bus" in green letters. Other students clustered at the street corners of Huntington and Forsyth streets, and the windows of White Hall and the Marino Center.

After about half an hour, hundreds of students swam through the cars on both sides of the Avenue for the Arts, headed for Massachusetts Avenue. Boston police helped divert traffic away from the passive protesters.

"Don't get arrested," commanded Brown. "Don't so much as touch the shoe lace of any policemen. This is a peaceful protest. We're going to march back to the Institute on the same side of the street, cause we've made our message loud and clear."

In a bloc behind the banner, students marched tightly back to the Institute around 8:30 p.m. A few hundreds of students gathered outside the Institute holding their fists to the air, while Brown addressed them from the roof.

"God this is beautiful," he said. "This is the 28th day of our occupation, and we will fight on until our demands are met."





**I don't know the key to success, but the key to failure is trying to please everybody.**  
- Bill Cosby

## Increase Your Salary at Work

By Anthony Barksdale  
Onyx Staff

While taking the Orange Line subway to work in the morning, I can't help but notice that there are posters that offer different classes you can take for different certifications. The MCSE class was offered for \$2,800.00. But who has that kind of money? If you are working for a company, ask your manager does the corporation reimburse or potentially offer courses. If you are like me and don't have that option, you can simply go to a library and check out the Microsoft's MCSE 2000 study books. However, let me inform you that by just reading these books, you will not pass the exam. Microsoft set up their exam so that you can't pass their exam from just reading their book. However, studying these books will put so much knowledge into you that you'll understand 50-60 percent of the exam. The other part of the exam you can learn from just using computers and other sources. An example of exam studying will be made clearer in Volume 2.

Have you ever asked yourself the question of "how can I increase my salary potential before applying for

that job," or once you have your foot in the door, "how can I make more Benjamin's?" This is the question that will be analyzed in this volume of "Increase Your Salary at Work."

The purpose of these volumes is to give you information that is not common in the minority community that may serve to be an advantage in the work forces my brothers and sisters. It is imperative that you possess the knowledge being brought forth to you because it will put you in the forefront of the workplace. Regardless of where your education may lie, you are still included in this. You don't need to be wealthy already, nor do you need to shell out thousands of dollars.

This article is for individuals that are: currently in college; already in the workplace; jobless; on welfare seeking real opportunity; not working in a professional environment; but seeking to get there, etc. [In other words this article is for everyone.]

Over the next volumes of "Increasing Your Salary", we will explore the secret to getting you on your way to your first technical certification. This article will examine the certification that is going to be examined is Microsoft's Certified System Engineer (MCSE) Certificate. Some of

the terms used in this article may be new or foreign however; you should take the initiative and learn what you do not understand. Please, "challenge yourself". Feel free to direct any questions to, Anthony Barksdale, at [antbarks@onebxx.com](mailto:antbarks@onebxx.com). My brothers and sisters, it is time to get paid.

### What is MCSE?

MCSE stands for Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer. It is a highly recognizable certification, among all companies. You obtain it when you pass the four core exams and the two elective exams of your choice.

### Quick Knowledge:

The inspiration to share this valuable information with you was a meeting with a young Muslim man by the name of Ismail Muhammad. He alerted me to what he called "the key to corporate representation." During the summer of 2001, I was working for Compaq Computers in Houston, TX when I first met Ismail. He conversed with me about this MCSE Certification. Ismail was saying that in corporate America, "people want to see knowledge on paper." He told me when time for review comes around and your boss has to determine how

much of a pay increase you will receive. It is based on what you have been doing and having one or more components of MCSE Certification serves you well as a hard and knowledgeable worker. In other words, he told me this is what they are looking for. Obtaining some type of documentation (Certification) proves to 'Corporate America' that you are qualified; having the paper puts you on the same playing field as others.

Ismail holds over 5 certifications, three of which he obtained in one year. Some of them are: CCNP (Cisco Certified Network Professional), CCDA (Cisco Certified Design Associate), MCSE 2000 (Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer), ASE (Compaq's Accredited Systems Engineer) etc. A copy of Muhammad's resume is on the Black Engineering Student Society's website: [www.nsb.e.neu.edu/resumes/ismail.doc](http://www.nsb.e.neu.edu/resumes/ismail.doc)

Notice that next to his name he has all of his professional titles: i.e. Ismail Muhammad ASE, CCNP, CCDA, MACE, and MCSE. Now that's "Whoa."

### Who can get one?

Anyone can obtain a Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer Certificate. You don't have to have any experience with computers or anything related. In fact you may be majoring in business, biology, or math. It doesn't matter! You can still receive a MCSE. You simply just need to pass the exams.

### How to get MCSE Certified:

In order to get MCSE Certified; you need to pass the four core exams. After each exam you pass you get a certificate.

*Note: even if you don't get all the way to your MCSE, remember that no one on your level is this far ahead of the game.*

1. Exam 70-210: Installing, Configuring and Administering Microsoft Windows 2000 Professional
2. Exam 70-215: Installing, Configuring and Administering Microsoft Windows 2000 Server
3. Exam 70-216: Implementing and Administering a Microsoft Windows 2000 Network Infrastructure
4. Exam 70-217: Implementing and Administering a Microsoft Windows 2000 Directory Services Infrastructure

By: Aja Jackson  
Onyx Staff

continued next page

## May Business Tips

### Focus on the Present

It's cliché, but jobs can be stressful, even on a daily basis. How we deal with the stress determines who's in control of our emotions as well as our health. To keep stress at a minimum, focus your thoughts on the present, not on past or future problems. Focusing calmly on the present enables you to gather information in an unbiased manner and make rational decisions, thus avoiding more stress.

If you constantly find yourself thinking in the past or future, train yourself to stay in the present. Several times a day stop what you're doing and check in with your thoughts. If you're not in the present, refocus by mentally rephrasing your thoughts. The more you do this, the easier it will be to catch past and future thoughts when they arise, and the more you'll notice a sense of inner balance and serenity.

### Living A More Empowered Life

Have you ever noticed how some people always seem to be in control

of their moods and events in their lives and on the job? Here's a news flash — being in control isn't a genetic predisposition! Living a more empowered life is possible for all of us, not just the lucky few. With practice, all of us can learn to habitually deal with situations and emotions in a more positive way. Since our jobs often-present daily challenges, being in more control can help reduce stress and allow us to be more attentive. Try this suggestion:

Don't be afraid of negative feelings. Take a deep breath, identify the negative thought, analyze it for validity, and relax. If the thought is on target, devise a strategy to positively deal with the situation. If it's not valid, look for what's real — things may not be as bad as you first thought.

### A Goal-Setting Exercise

To set well-defined, concrete goals, the Harvard Negotiation Project suggests a simple exercise to distinguish between abstract/general thinking and specific/practical thinking:

1. Draw a large circle on a piece of paper.
2. Next draw a horizontal line across the middle of the circle.
3. Place all abstract/general thinking above the line in the circle and all specific/practical thoughts below the line.
4. Now divide the circle in half vertically, creating four equal quadrants. Put all thinking about the past on the left side and future thoughts on the right. The information in each quadrant now represents the following categories:
  - Quadrant I (lower left): data or description of the problem you're working to solve.
  - Quadrant II (upper left): diagnosis of the situation or problem.
  - Quadrant III (upper right): direction or strategies for overcoming the problem.
  - Quadrant IV (lower right): do next—specific steps you plan to take.

By: Aja Jackson  
Onyx Staff

The Onyx Informer is looking for Business students interested in writing for this section. Please contact us at [Onyxbusiness@yahoo.com](mailto:Onyxbusiness@yahoo.com) or at (617) 373-2250



## Your Salary from pg 6

*Note: These books can be found at your local school or public library.*

You don't have to take the exams in this or any particular order; it is suggested that you take the exams in this matter. Windows 2000 professional is one of the most familiar platforms that you have encountered. It is not hard to pass the 70-210 exam and get your MCP (Microsoft Certified Professional) certificate. Let's take a look at the certification ladder that awaits you.

### Benefits for obtaining your MCSE:

Once you have a Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer Certificate or any Certificate that is offered by Microsoft, you will have many more options for employment and financial growth. It is important though that you take a position that uses some of these skills required for the exam in your job, so you can use this certificate to back up your knowledge. For example, you don't want to take this exam and apply for a bus-driving position; there is no good reason for that.

In addition to receiving certifications, some other benefits you will receive are as follows:

1. Industry recognition of your knowledge and proficiency with Microsoft products and technologies.

2. Invitations to Microsoft conferences, technical training sessions, and special events.
3. MCSE logo, certificate, transcript, wallet card, and lapel pin to identify you as a Microsoft Certified Professional to colleagues or clients. Electronic files of logos and transcript may be downloaded from the MCP secured Web site upon certification.

Microsoft's Web-page on Certifications:

<http://www.microsoft.com/trainingandservices/default.asp>

### Information/Brain Dump Site:

Basically what happens is people who take this exam collaborate together and form these web-pages that give you useful information on what the exam entails. They will tell you where they studied from, what good sources are available and where to get good practice exams. I know people that have studied straight from brain-dump sites and passed the exam.

This site is from people that pass the four core exams. What they are doing at this site is telling you what questions are on the exam. It is important to understand that many of the questions on the exam show up again and again. I suggest going to this site and just taking a look at what kind of questions they ask. In the next issue

I'll be giving you more sites like this and I'm even going to include some sample questions.

<http://www.rambuk.dk/braindumps.htm>

### Next Issue:

What you can expect from the next issue of the Onyx in the Fall '01 is a beginning on how to get started with studying and passing your first exam, 70-210: Installing, Configuring and Administering Microsoft Windows 2000 Professional. We will analyze good sources of study and locations in the Boston area where you can take your exam. If you are studying and reading and doing practice problems every day, it should take you no longer

than a month of study to be ready to take your first exam.

My former manager at Compaq holds a degree in Sociology; nevertheless what she did was remarkable. She studied for all four-core exams. It took her about 6 months altogether. She then went into the test center and took all four of her exams together, passing them all. So if she can do it without having a technical degree or any knowledge about computers, so can you my brothers and sisters. Stay tuned for Volume 2 Exam 70-210 Installing and Administering Windows 2000.

## CompaqComputers a no show at NSBE?

Compaq Computers was not present at the National Convention in Indianapolis, IN this year. It was due to "a lack of response on behalf of NSBE" Terry Alexander of Compaq Computer claims. "NSBE never responded to Compaq's responses."

The National Society of Black Engineers conducted its Convention without the company that supplied nearly 100% of all computers at NSBE's 2000 conference in Charlotte, NC. Will things change at next years Convention?

## Steps to Investing Wisely

By: Joseph Banda  
Onyx Staff

### Beginning Investors

Investing is just one aspect of personal finance. Issues in personal finance include making a budget, sticking to a budget, saving money towards major purchases or retirement, managing debt properly, insuring your property, etc. Many "beginning investors" have no business investing in stocks. One should first build one's framework and gain knowledge about good money management, fixing your credit, budgeting, purchasing, insurance, taxes, estate issues, and investing backgrounds.

If you have extra money, you can put it in a money market or a bank account, until you have completed basic training.

Before a soldier is lead into battle, he/she must first learn certain things. He/she must learn to think like a soldier; he/she must be able to identify the enemy. He/she must be familiar with the terrain; he/she must be able to adapt to various conditions and counteract appropriately; he/she must know how to effectively utilize numerous weapons, and he/she must have the courage of a soldier. If any of these elements are not in place, the soldier becomes a liability and at risk to not survive while in battle. This is also true of a successful investor. Before you invest in the stock market you must know certain things. You must have a goal; you must know various investments options available to you. You must understand certain basic terminology and strategies; you must be able to adapt to the changing and sometimes unpredictable market

trends; you must be aware of your sometimes-changing personal investment needs, and you must have the courage to invest. If all of these elements are not assessed and not in place, your investments will be at high risks and you will continue to lose money.

You should be aware that investing is not for perfectionists. If you want to be a perfectionist in investments, you might want to try your hand at something else because in the end you will have a lot of migraines. Every investor loses money. The key is that hopefully, "at the end of the day," your gains will outweigh your losses. If you have the desire to become a true soldier in investing, you must complete the aforementioned basic training, have courage, and not be afraid to lose some money. No one is responsible for your financial situation but you.

### Errors in Investing

(Source Wall Street Journal 6/18/91 article pages C1/C10 on Investment Errors)

- Not following an investment objective when you build a portfolio

(If you change your objective, you might as well build a new portfolio)

- Buying too many mutual funds

(When you buy funds of the same asset class, you're really not diversifying)

- Not researching a 1-product stock before you buy

(You should know everything about that company's product & where you think it's going)

- Believing that you can pick market highs and lows (time the market)

- (Buying low & selling high with any degree of accuracy and consistency is

almost impossible)

- Taking profits early  
(Patience is a virtue that pays)

- Not cutting your losses

(If you've incurred significant losses and continue to do so, let it go and look elsewhere)

- Buying the hottest (stock, mutual fund) from last year

(That was then, this is now!)

### Researching A Company

There are certain things to look at when researching a company. These are a few that might help you in your analysis. Reference: <http://www.stocks.mart.com>, <http://www.sec.gov> (Edgar Database)

- **Price/Earnings Ratio** - the multiple of earnings the company is trading at versus other companies in the industry.

- **Technical Analysis** - is the stock near a high or low, and how has it done recently.

- **Current News** - what are the company's products, is their good management, good future prospects? Are they being sued? What's the competition like? Do they have long-term contracts established?

- **Management** - does the company have competent people running it? (Executive backgrounds can be found in Proxy statements (14As) in Edgar Database.) CEO and top management compensation structure. Shareholder rights plan- if the company doesn't have one; they don't care about shareholder's rights unless the company is not publicly traded.

### On-line Wisdom:

Utilize and apply these pieces of investment wisdom at your own risk and discretion:

A) Hang up on cold calls- even if these

solicitations to invest in stocks are legitimate, the caller can't know your financial position, goals, risk tolerance, and other criteria that pertain to making your investment decisions.

B) Don't invest in something you don't understand- if you invest in something, you know nothing about, you are putting yourself at tremendous risk. An example is investing in penny stocks.

C) If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is- every investment opportunity competes with every other investment opportunity. If one seems wildly better than the others do, there are probably hidden risks or you do not understand something.

D) If your tool is a screwdriver, every problem looks like a nut- if a financial planner has a limited array of products, they might or will only sell you those products. These may be less suitable for your particular needs.

E) Don't rush into an investment- Be extremely cautious if someone tells you that the opportunity is closing, filling up fast, or in any way suggests a time pressure.

F) Very low priced stocks require special treatment- Risks are significant, prices are volatile, and commissions are relatively high. You need a broker who knows how to purchase these stocks for a good price.

### Technical Analysis

This type of analysis attempts to use past stock price and volume information to predict future price movements.

- Stage Analysis-

1) "Base building"- Stock price wanders back and forth across



## Investments from pg 7

- 200 day moving average.
- "Advancing stage"- Stock price rises above 200 and 50 day moving averages.
  - "Peaking Out"- A stock reaches its pinnacle.
  - "Decline"- Stock price declines below 50 and 200 day moving average.

A whipsaw is when purchases of stocks are based on a moving average (or some other signal) and then the price moves in the other direction giving a sell signal short after, often with a loss.

#### - 200 day vs. 190/210 day Moving Averages

The shorter the moving average, the more fluctuations it has.

#### Support level Vs. Resistance level

When a stock drops to a price, say \$25 per share and rebounds and this happens a few more times. Then \$25 is considered a "support" level. An advance to \$35 per share is followed by a pullback to lower prices because a "resistance" level exists.

Using this information will help you to strategize two-fold. First, to purchase near the support and take profits near resistance. And secondly, to wait for a stock to penetrate a previous resistance level.

#### Relative Strength Indicator (RSI)

Originated by J. Welles Wilder in 1978, this indicator is supposed to track price momentum. It is called an oscillator because it varies between the upper and lower bounds of the stock price. This relative strength is calculated by dividing the average stock price change on the up days by the average price change on down days.

#### Formula:

A buy signal is indicated when the relative strength calculated comes out to 30 or less. And a sell signal is when the relative strength is 70 or greater. [Free interactive charting feature that includes (among many others RSI): <http://www.bigcharts.com> <http://www.aaii.com>

As a writer, researcher, and student, I cannot give you anything that you don't want for yourself. Everyone is not going to have financial freedom, flexibility and security, only those that choose to achieve it when they are ready. Hopefully, the sooner the better. Remember it's personal finance first, then investments, and not the other way around. Do your research and see you at the top!

#### -References

## Professor Joseph Warren Wins Major Award

Dudley Square Main Streets recently named, Joseph Warren, director of Northeastern University Community Outreach Partnership Center (NUCOPC) and special assistant to the vice president of government relations/community affairs, "Volunteer of the Year."

Every year, Dudley Square and other neighborhood-based Main Streets districts belonging to Mayor Thomas M. Menino's appointed Boston Main Streets honor a business and community volunteers who have contributed their resources and energy toward the social, cultural and economic revitalization of Boston's neighborhoods.



Professor Warren is a strong advocate for inner city development.

NUCOPC, the economic development partnership arm of Northeastern's Urban Outreach Council, strives to create partnerships between long time community stakeholders and the university's faculty and staff in order to design strategies geared to help local businesses expand, create jobs, and play a vital role in the local community's economy.

As NUCOPC's director, Warren volunteered many hours as chair of Dudley Square's Economic Restructuring Committee. Through Northeastern's Family Business Program and Merchants Academy, he has provided several local businesses in Dudley Square with technical assis-

tance, including having university students survey over 550 Dudley residents to assess their opinions about their community. Warren and former Governor Michael Dukakis, a distinguished professor of political science at Northeastern; were the impetus for the Department of Public Health's relocation to Dudley Square and the construction of a 200,000-square foot office building in the area.

Warren says, "It is in our interest at Northeastern to work towards improving the economic and social vitality of Roxbury's community." Warren is helping both the Merchants and the Main Streets Board assess services conducted in the past year, and is working on a new work plan for both organizations.

Warren and other Main Streets volunteers, businesses and corporate and city partners were honored at the Fifth Annual Boston Main Streets Celebration.

Joseph Warren received a Bachelor of Arts from A&T University in Greenville, North Carolina, and completed his graduate and doctoral studies at Brandeis University where he received his doctorate in social welfare and economics. Before committing himself fulltime to the directorship of NUCOPC, Warren was a professor of African-American studies.

## Soul Food

### Food Recipes for the Soul and Mind

#### MEAT LOVERS LASAGNA

##### INGREDIENTS:

- 1 9 x 13 inch baking dish
- 2 lb. hamburger meat (85-95% less fat)
- 1 onion, chopped
- 1 tablespoon chopped fresh basil
- 1 teaspoon dried oregano
- 2 tablespoons brown sugar
- 1 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 (29 ounce) can diced tomatoes
- 2 (6 ounce) cans tomato paste
- 12 dry lasagna noodles
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1 pack Italian sausages
- 16oz. Ricotta cheese
- 1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese
- 2 tablespoons dried parsley
- 1 pound mozzarella cheese, shredded

##### DIRECTIONS:

1. Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Brown hamburger, Italian sausages, onion, and garlic over medium heat. Drain fat. Mix in oregano, brown sugar, one 1/2-teaspoon salt, diced tomatoes, and tomato paste. Simmer for 30-45 minutes.
2. Cook lasagna noodles according to package directions. Drain and rinse with cold water. Lay out on paper towels, and blot dry.
3. In bowl combine eggs, ricotta, Parmesan cheese, parsley, and 1 teaspoon salt.
4. Spread 1-cup sauce on the bottom of the 9x13 inch pan. Put one layer of lasagna noodles on top, spread 1/2 ricotta mixture on top of noodles, 1/2 mozzarella cheese, and 1/3 tomato sauce. Repeat layering. Spread additional Parmesan cheese over the top.
5. At this point, the lasagna can be baked at 375 degrees for 30 minutes. Let stand after baking for 10 minutes before serving.

Amount per serving

Calories	853
Protein	57g
Total Fat	42g
Sodium	2205mg
Cholesterol	203mg
Carbohydrates	61g
Fiber	5g

#### FRENCHTOAST SOUFFLE

##### INGREDIENTS:

- 10 cups white bread cubes
- 1 (8 ounce) package low fat cream cheese, softened
- 8 small eggs
- 1 1/2 cups milk
- 2/3 cup half and half cream
- 1/2 cup maple syrup
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 2 tablespoons confectioners sugar

##### DIRECTIONS:

1. Place bread cubes in a lightly greased 9x13 inch-baking pan.
2. In a large bowl, beat cream cheese with an electric mixer at medium speed until smooth. Add eggs one at a time, mixing well after each egg. Stir in milk, half-and-half, maple syrup, and vanilla until mixture is smooth. Pour cream cheese mixture over the top of the bread; cover and refrigerate over night.
3. The next morning, remove the souffle from the refrigerator and let stand at room temperature for 30 minutes. Meanwhile, preheat oven to 375 degrees.
4. Bake in preheated oven for 30 minutes or until set. Sprinkle souffle with powdered sugar and serve warm. This is a great specialty for Saturday or Sunday breakfast.

- Each month the Onyx will bring to you Soul Food

## Northeastern Awards Group and Individuals for Diversity Efforts

Northeastern University's 2001 President's 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Diversity Recognition Awards, were presented on Wednesday, May 9, at the Raytheon Amphitheater in the Egan Center. At this ceremony they honored two Northeastern University individuals and a group for extraordinary accomplishments in fostering a multicultural community on and beyond campus. In addition, William B. Harvey, the keynote speaker and director of the Office of Minorities in Higher Education at the American Council on Education, spoke on "Diversity in Higher Education: A 21<sup>st</sup> Century Imperative."

Usually one individual and group are honored. This year, however, due to the compelling nominations received, two individuals were honored — a student and an administrator — as well as a group.

Donnie Perkins, dean and director of the Office of Affirmative Action at Northeastern, encourages students,

faculty and staff to show their support. "Come out and show appreciation to members of our community who are actively committed to promoting diversity, multiculturalism and a climate of inclusion on campus," said Perkins. "We had a very special opportunity to hear from William B. Harvey, a nationally recognized authority on diversity."

The focus of Harvey's research, who was described by Black Issues in Higher Education as having "one of the most visible and influential posts in higher education," is the examination of the cultural and social factors that affect underserved populations, with particular emphasis on college and university settings.

Five thousand dollars was awarded to the Northeastern unit and \$1,000 each to the two individual recipients. For more information, please contact the Office of Affirmative Action at 617-373-2133.

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# ONYX HEALTH

Success doesn't come to  
you...you go to it.

-Marva Collins

## How Many Licks Does It Really Take

By: Amy Morgan  
Onyx Staff

Sex has been the topic of conversations for millions of individuals for millions of years. Yet, only recently has sex, specifically the orgasm, been the topic of scientific research. I am sure we all know what an orgasm is, and many of us know what an orgasm feels like, but how many people know actually what happens within their body and their partners body during an orgasm?

The first thing to realize is that although the man and the woman have very different orgasms and feel very different effects and have different physical anatomy, the process that their bodies go through is actually quite similar. Each man and woman goes through something termed the sexual response cycle. The cycle is divided into four stages, but the two individuals don't usually reach the stages of the cycle at the same time. Stage one of the cycle is termed excitement. This stage starts about 30 seconds after erotic stimulation and can last from minutes to hours. For the man the penis and nipples will become slightly erect. The woman begins to produce vaginal lubrication, the nipples become erect, outer and inner lips of the vagina expand and the clitoris begins to expand and shift to become exposed. For both individuals breathing and heart rate increase. Stage 2 is the Plateau. For the man the testes are drawn into the scrotum and the penis becomes fully erect. For the woman, the vagina lips become puffer, the tissues in the wall begin to swell with blood, the uterus shifts positions and the opening of the vagina narrows. For both individuals breathing and heart rate increase and muscular tension may occur in the thighs, hips, hands and buttocks. Stage three is the shortest stage, lasting only a few seconds, the orgasm. For the man, seminal fluid collects in the urethral bulb. Next, semen is ejaculated from the penis and contraction of the penile muscles occurs. For the woman, the first third of the vagina wall contracts rhythmically every eighth-tenths of a second. The muscles in the uterus also contract. For both, muscle tension and blood-vessel enlargement reach a maximum and there may be a grasping-type muscular reflex of the hands and feet. The last period is resolution, this period may last a few minutes to hours, usually lasting longer in the woman. This period is when the body returns to its normal state.

What turns on the sexual-response cycle? Neural communication occurs similarly in both men and women during an orgasm. The autonomic nervous system regulates many of the feelings you experience throughout your life, such as the fight-or-flight response, blushing, getting goosebumps, feeling relaxed and vegetative

as well as the orgasm. The autonomic nervous system has two parts. The first part known as the sympathetic nervous system deals with sexual arousal, reaction to emergencies, as well as other things by increasing the heart rate and blood pressure. In contrast the parasympathetic nervous system mediates the calming of your body by decreasing your breathing and heart rate. Both the vagina and the penis receive messages from the parasympathetic and the sympathetic nervous system. The calming nervous system needs to modify blood flow to the pelvic region of the individual so erection of the penis and swelling of the vagina can occur. As the individual becomes more aroused, the excitatory nervous system begins to kick in, heart rate and breathing increase, and the individual tries to hold on to the calming effect, as long as possible. Finally the excitatory system reaches the height of activation and an euphoric feeling comes over the person.

During an orgasm, endorphins are released into the blood stream. Endorphins are thought to be released during laughter and strenuous activity. They evoke a response of calming, pleasure, happiness and pain relief. Endorphins get released into the blood stream from the pituitary gland, due to the brain receiving a message of orgasm from the pelvic region. Endorphins have the same chemical structure and act very similar as the addictive pain reliever, morphine.

For guys who are finding that they are reaching orgasm too quickly, there is a very simple and quick fix. Try taking a couple of deep breaths, there are stretch receptors in your chest that trigger the calming effects of the ner-

vous system. Also, keep in mind, that you achieve orgasm through the repeated inward outward motion, while women achieve orgasm through stimulation, for women it may be as simple as a gentle touch in the right area.

Lastly, a couple of things for the females to keep in mind. There is a difference between the clitoral and vaginal orgasm. As stated above, during excitement, the clitoris swells and changes shape, the vagina swells and the uterus switches positions. During this stimulation most women achieve orgasm by repeated contact of the clitoris, this is termed the clitoral orgasm. Yet there is something called a vaginal orgasm and women can reach orgasm through stimulation of the outer third of the vagina and cervix. In addition, it has been concluded that the woman achieves orgasm, more often when she is on top. The woman has more control as to what parts of the vagina are being stimulated. This also frees up hands so the hands can reach areas that are not being reached by the penis. One last thing...Ladies the infamous G-spot, you have one. It has been scientifically proven that all women have an area in the vagina that can cause an intense orgasm. The only problem is that when not stimulated, the G-spot is on average only the size of a pea. When stimulated the G-spot can grow to the size of a walnut. The G-spot is located just inside the opening of the vagina, towards the stomach region.

Remember that each person is different, and something that may arouse one individual, can turn another individual off. It is important to be open and honest with your sexual partner,

communication can make the entire experience much more exciting. In addition, please be careful and protect yourselves.

If you have any  
questions concerning  
Health...Please feel free  
to contact:  
MAPS at...  
[minorityprehealth@hotmail.com](mailto:minorityprehealth@hotmail.com)

## Onyx Monthly Health Facts

1. Mortality from all cancers is 68% higher for African American males than for white males.
2. African American men are at least 50% more likely to develop (and twice as likely to die from) prostate cancer than men of any other racial or ethnic group in the United States.
3. The projected average life expectancy for African American men in 2000 was 64.6 years.
4. The 5-year survival rate for African American males with prostate cancer is 10% lower than that of white males.
5. Cigarette smoking is more common among African American males than for white males (32.3% vs. 27.3%).
6. African American men are 66% more likely to develop prostate cancer than white men.
7. Lung cancer mortality for African American men is nearly 70% higher than that for white men.

## African-Americans Called Upon to help Fight Sickle Cell Disease

The American Red Cross and the New England Marrow Donor Program are asking African American students on campus and in the community to come out and help fight Sickle Cell. This past April there was a Sickle Cell Savers whole blood and bone marrow testing drive that took place in the Curry Student Center of Northeastern.

This was the regularly scheduled blood drive with a special opportunity for volunteer donors to have their blood specially tested to see if they can donate for a specific patient with Sickle Cell Disease. It was also an opportunity to sign up for the National Marrow Donor Registry. The American Red Cross is currently looking for blood donors of all blood type who are in good health and older than 17 years old, who weigh more than 110 pounds. To be eligible for the bone

marrow program you must be over age 18, in good general health, with no injuries to your back or hips. Please contact Circle-K to make an appointment.

Joining the National Marrow Donor Registry puts you on a national list of volunteers who are willing to donate their stem cells to strangers if the need arises. At any given time 3,000 patients are searching for a stem cell match to cure them of one of 60 fatal blood diseases. Matched donors donate their stem cells in one of two ways. The traditional method is a surgical procedure involving 2 needles stuck in the bone of the hip, under anesthesia. Following the procedure donors are usually sore and tired for up to 2 weeks. The newer method is called Peripheral Blood Stem Cell and involves an apheresis

blood procedure; no anesthesia or cutting is required. Your stem cells regenerate in less than 2 months so your body is back to normal in a short period of time.

Donating blood involves about an hour of your time. You must pass a health history exam making sure you can safely donate blood. The actual process of donating blood takes most people less than 10 minutes. All blood types are needed to save patients in Massachusetts and African American and Hispanic donors are specifically needed to save patients with Sickle Cell disease.

If you have any specific questions about the marrow donor program please call, CarolAnn Baldwin 1-800-676-4545. For information about donating blood please call 1-800-GIVELIFE.



# Speak Out

## Tavis Smiley Fired from BET

The last time I checked, Black entertainment was not defined by half dressed girls, gyrating in raunchy music videos that degraded and demeaned them. Black entertainment did not consist of distasteful comedy shows and reruns of old television shows that were not a good representation of the black community to begin with. Black entertainment was not comprised of infomercials during time slots that could be showing quality programming. The last time I checked black entertainment consisted of athletes, producers, writers, actors, artists, musicians, journalists, dancers, and the list goes on.

Black Entertainment Television is a concept that had so much potential but was wasted due to one man's love of money. The cancellation of BET Tonight with Tavis Smiley was a great injustice to the black community and to those who watch BET. Tavis' show, along with Lead Story, Bet News with Ed Gordon, and Teen Summit are the only shows with any substance on BET. And it is sad to say that these



shows happen to be the exception to the rule. The majority of the programming on BET consists of the same music videos that are played in different rotations. The shows that do display positive images of black people are not shown during primetime, but are however shown late at night and on the weekends.

In his five years at BET, Tavis Smiley had demonstrated his love for the black community by not conforming to the nonsense that was going on around him. He kept his integrity by keeping his show thought provoking and interesting even though the one hour that he had initially been given was cut down to just 30 minutes. Unlike Bob Johnson who is in this to make his own pockets fatter, and opted to do this by showing cheap music video programming. Tavis kept the best interest of the black community in mind even though his show wasn't one of the top rated shows on the network.

During an interview on BET, Bob Johnson stated that it was his and only

his decision to terminate Tavis Smiley. Johnson stated that Tavis and BET had business and creative differences and he did not feel that it would benefit either one to stay in this relationship. Johnson said that the main issue that prompted him not to renew Tavis' contract was the fact that he did not offer an exclusive interview with alleged SLA fugitive Sara Jane Olson to BET, and instead offered it to ABC news.

Smiley responded to these statements on The Tom Joyner Morning Show. He stated that his contract with BET allowed him to appear on and produce other programming through his production company. The only requirement was that wherever Smiley appeared, he had to be identified as a representative of BET. Tavis also stated that CBS, which is BET's sister network, was offered this interview and they refused to accept it, so he offered it to ABC. On the March 27, 2001 broadcast of the Tom Joyner Morning Show, Tavis stated that "I find it curious that Mr. Johnson would move to

dismiss me for selling one interview in five years to another network, when BET refused to broadcast any of our Black Think Tank symposiums which so many of you watched on C-SPAN, I love C-SPAN, but know that BET passed on this opportunity." Smiley went on to say, "Finally, I find it even more curious that Mr. Johnson would move to dismiss me for selling one mainstream interview to a mainstream network when he sold the whole company to Viacom."

Through all of the turmoil that the dismissal of Tavis Smiley has caused, BET has promised that they will start to broadcast more quality programming. When BET was a black owned company, the black community was misled into thinking that their best interest was in mind. Now that Viacom owns BET, black people must take an even greater stance to make

sure that the content which is represented under the name Black Entertainment Television, is used to strengthen and uplift the black community, and not tear it down.

Naa-Solo Tettey  
Business Majnr

## Response to "the Hater"

In the February Issue of the Onyx Informer, there was an article written by 'the Hater':

"One last thing, being that this is a college newspaper at that. No disrespect, but you know I gotta spread some hate to all those color wearing, cat call throwin', party havin' Black fraternities and sororities. OK, I can deal with y'all sometimes, but y'all need to stop bumping me in your parties. I don't give a damn if it is YOUR party, that don't give you the right to step on my damn Jordan's all the time. I'm sayin', I'm tryin to shake my butt and you gotta bring your damn conga line right through the middle of the dance floor. I didn't pay money to see you have a good time with your steppin and fetchin. But it's aight. Just don't say anything when I throw a party and punch each one of y'all in the face just because it's MY party."

In response: On behalf of the Brothers of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc., Sigma Chapter, thank you for taking the time to offer your ideas and opinions on Black Greek Lettered Organizations (BGLOs) and their functions. Let's keep it real. This is not the first time, and it will not be the last time that haters will be addressed. I am curious to know, if you are so tired of going to BGLO parties only to get your Jordan's, Durango's or Timberlands' stepped on while we party walk and you attempt "to shake your butt," why do you continue to go to them? Maybe you should consider attending a program such as, Alpha Phi Alpha's "The History of

Negro League Baseball" or Delta Sigma Theta's "Fight Against Breast Cancer" or Zeta Phi Beta's "Black Movie Nights" or Phi Beta Sigma's "Blue Lounge." Programs are free and open to the public. More importantly, you leave with a provoking thought in your head and a full wallet. As a matter of fact, the same 'shorty' you were trying to "get your groove on with" is at them so why aren't you? As a matter of fact, so are many of the people who attend the parties. If you claim that you never hear about them, that's funny: we publicize the parties just as much as the programs.

As for the parties, that's cool. I appreciate your opinion. Being Greek is a privilege — membership in any organization has privileges and it just so happens that free or reduced admission to parties tends to be one of them. Members of our organizations put in the hard work and dedication so that people like you can have something enjoyable to do on a given night, either to relax from school or teach you something that you will not learn in the classroom.

You also made the comment, "just don't say anything when I punch each one of y'all in the face just because it's MY party." Violence achieves nothing. As a rule, no BGLO condones or initiates such activity. Instead, we promote scholastic achievement and social growth. Receiving a college education, a privilege that thousands of men and women sacrificed their lives for us to have, should

allow students to excel academically, to positively impact the community and build a foundation so that we may succeed professionally. The goal is not to participate in senseless violence. Instead of directing negative sentiments toward fellow students of color, maybe you could invest your energies in something positive such as spearheading a drive to save the Institute.

We appreciate the continued support of BGLO programs and parties. Thank you to everyone who came out to support AFA Women's Appreciation this past March at Boston University. Over 150 people helped to make this program a true success.

Once again, thank you for taking the time to offer your ideas and opinions.

Etienne Lombard  
Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc.,  
Sigma Chapter, Vice President  
[Creole\\_06@yahoo.com](mailto:Creole_06@yahoo.com)

**New Onyx Staff Positions are now available for next year...the Onyx is currently looking for writers for each section, photographers, graphic designers, website developers if you want to become part of the Onyx family next year...Feel free to contact us at:**

[Onyxinformer@yahoo.com](mailto:Onyxinformer@yahoo.com)  
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# ONYX EDUTAINMENT

The greatest education in the world is watching the masters at work.

- Michael Jackson

## SOUL SPEECH

### "I Was Wrong"

I was wrong to think I was in love with you, just because you gave me things that didn't belong to you. You told me things I wanted to hear, like those words, "I love you," when you really didn't care. And now that we're separated, you're stressing me out, because you see what you could have had, and you know you lucked out.

Don't worry, don't fret, I won't be talking to you soon. Someone has taken your place, and I have no room for you. I admit, I was wrong, when I showed you all of my heart because you took our love and you tore it apart.

Now I found a new man, and I know He cares, because He died for me and shed blood in His own hands. He will never leave me nor forsake me when times get rough—like you did when I said, "I wouldn't give it up."

Now, I'm with Jesus and not with you. Maybe one day you'll wise up and accept Him too. But as for now, I'm leaving you.

By: Cassandra Thomson

### "Lets Keep it Real"

Lets keep it real. I am in luv now. I luv her. But can we still chill. Can I still hang out with the fellas. Can we still go out to the party. Let the liquor hit our lips and sleep with anybody. But I got to keep it real. I luv her. I can't do the same things. But can we still chill. Can I still be down. I am still the same n#\$\$. You still my main man. I ain't going anywhere.

We will always be together. I am just growing. Making new moves in my life. How can I tell you I am in luv. Do we have to be pimps all our lives. We're taught at a young age not to luv. From the cotton fields to the streets. Our luv and sexuality exploited.

How can we express ourselves. Our feelings. Our luv. You my man and she's my girl. And I luv both of ya'll.

By: Angelo H. Lynn

### "Daydream"

Wondering if there is a possibility that this can come true. To sit and know that this moment is a wish for you.

Eyes wide shut and mind' free as a bird. Feeling the wind blow. Knowing you heard, heard the thoughts of me and you, you and me. As I sit here in my state of etemity. Wanting for this to be reality. Yet it is still unclear to see. That this is but a dream. A day-dream, a fragment of my thoughts. A wish, a want, a must have but cant. Knowing that once I am interrupted. I could never reach that state again. Could there be a chance to make this come true. Will there be a time when I can come to know you. To unwind in your hands so you can see me. To let go and be free within someone else but me. Will there be, could there be, will I let this come true. Do I have the nerve to fulfill a dream that makes me pure? Can I let this daydream determine my choice? To finally go freely into a time of immortal joy. Only time can tell and then I will see. That this daydream is but a reality!

By: Jenita Tillman

### "Stroller"

Consumed by this here wicked signal Thought I could do it, but I couldn't pull it. I walk with a straightedge gait Side to side bopping and weaving. If you only knew what brews. Fermented into a chaotic mixture. Versed

well on the reverse scriptures. Hold the form for a jimmy well. Spillage of cancer from valleys to the plains. Comprehend this here totem pole. Fallen ones that martyred for mine and yours. And I'm trying to climb this cliff for sure. It doesn't matter if you're watching or not. Blind folded, but I carry telepathy Glocks. If you think not, breathe again if you can. Compose this route only for firewalkers. Don't feel me when you look around you. Turning colder when I looked in the eyes. Not understanding the feelings in the chest inside. Cut open like a plum in pain. In vain the crowd cried made me run away. Take it down don't glance it's gone. If I told you the truth I swear you'd spawn. Transformed to a beast when that girl switched up. Was told to take a sword and fight for the cause. Danger danger for it's got a soul. Destined to dynasty with books and bricks. When you see it you'll know it. On any level musing to stars and seas. Sling away now no limited later. Only one saw this, breathed this, believed and lived this...x

By: Joe Banda

All poem entries may be submitted to [onyxpoetry@yahoo.com](mailto:onyxpoetry@yahoo.com). Poems must be submitted in e-mail and hard copy form, with a maximum length of thirty lines. All entries that are printed are copyrighted by The Onyx Informer and their respective authors. All rights reserved. The Onyx Informer reserves the right to edit submissions for layout purposes with permission from the author.

## Reading Between The Lines

### "Tryin to Sleep in the Bed You Made"

Pat and Gayle are the women we are, the women we've been, or at least the women we have encountered at some point in our lives. The book's title defines an account of living with the decisions one makes in life. The book weaves in and out of the lives of two sister-friends with completely different aspirations, hopes, and paths to travel in life. Tryin' is filled with drama-laden chapters with twists one couldn't even imagine.

Gayle is the beautiful, spoiled child with aspirations of getting married and having children. She is best friends with Pat, a plain, intelligent child with aspirations of having a professional career. Pat is abandoned by her mother and is taken in by Gayle's parents and the two live as sisters. Pat goes off to an Ivy League college and begins a career in advertising, as Gayle floats in a cloud of baby and

marriage. Pat has many ins and outs with various relationships in her life; she is out to prove to herself, her worth in life. Gayle on the other hand marries a gambling man who prepares a fairy tale looking bed, in which Gayle does not even have, sheets to call her own. Pat on the other hand ends up sharing hers.

If you like drama, Black drama, you'll love this book. If you ever had a close sister-friend in your life, you'll love this book. If you've ever said things you wish you hadn't or done things you wish you hadn't, you'll love this book. If you've ever dared or dreamed beyond what you've known or had, you'll love this book. If you ever had to make decisions and had to deal with the consequences, you'll appreciate this book. Been in love? Been hurt? Known betrayal? You'll feel this

### The ONYX Top Five Book List

- 1) "The Coldest Winter Ever"  
Sister Souljah
- 2) "Souls Of My Sisters"  
Dawn Daniesls/Candace Sady
- 3) "The Great Investment"  
T.D. Jakes
- 4) "A Day Late and a Dollar Short"  
Terry McMillan
- 5) "Until Today!"  
Iyanla Vanzant

book. Want something to be happy about, get mad at, be sad about? Read this book, you'll find something in there to suit all those feelings.

Do you like to say or think things like "well, I would have done it this way, had it been me," If so, this is your book, the life you get to comment on, dwell in, love and hate. When you start this book, sleep and class will be the only thing that will make you put this down. And even sleep, you'll sacrifice here and there to get in few dozen more pages with each read. To

your friends who have already been privileged enough to have read through the almost five hundred pages, you'll start to have conversations like "I can't believe this, or what'd you think of that..." The characters become so real. To your friends who have yet to encounter this tasty tale, you're the one they need to thank God for having blessed them with knowledge of such a jewel.

By: Melissa Owens  
Onyx Staff



Look out for the Edutainment Section next year...We will be bringing you monthly contest, and events. You'll be able to win free cd's from BMG Records, free movies passes to the hottest movies. So look out for the first issue in October '01...if you have any questions, contact us at [Onyxedutainment@yahoo.com](mailto:Onyxedutainment@yahoo.com)

## The Brothers

The Brothers is a romantic comedy about four African American male-professionals, Jackson (Morris Chestnut), Terry (Shemar Moore), Brian (Bill Bellamy), and Derrick (D.L. Hughley) in their late twenties who together are exploring different issues regarding love, betrayal, friendship and commitment.

Written and directed by Gary Gartwick, the Brothers traces the relationship between these friends and shows the predicaments that they wind up in as a result of their pursuit of the opposite sex. This movie deals with emotions of trust, fear, devotion, commitment, and brotherhood, which are rarely portrayed by black male actors in Hollywood.

The Brothers does not type cast these men as players or dogs, but instead portrays them in a broad array of characters. Chestnut's character is a man that is ready to settle down and is trying to deal with his commitment-phobia.



"The Brothers" traces the hilarious journey of four African-American men as they take on love, sex, friendship and two of life's most terrifying prospects — honesty and commitment.

Moore's character who has had enough of playing the field has decided to settle down and get engaged. Hughley's character is married, committed and is trying to work out issues that any married couple may have to deal with.

Finally there is Bellamy's character who has given up on black women, and begins to date exclusively white women, and figures out the problems are not with the women but with him.

The Brothers picks up where The Best Man and The Wood left off and continues to give the black community something that it needs now more than ever, positive and real images in the media. The Brothers is a joyous, warm, and entertaining film that brings up some important questions about black men and their journey through dealing with their strengths and weaknesses in regards to themselves, each other and their relationships with women.

By: Naa-Solo Tettey  
Onyx Staff

## Former US Department of Justice Lawyer Releases Debut Book

Debut author and former US Department of Justice lawyer Christopher Chambers has announced the debut of his new book and website, [www.chrischambersbooks.com](http://www.chrischambersbooks.com). Chambers, who grew up in Washington, DC and Baltimore, MD, now resides in Charlotte, NC.

Random House will publish his first thriller novel, "Sympathy for the Devil," featuring the recurring African American character FBI Special Agent Angela Renee Bivens, in hardcover this September, 2001. (The second, "The Ama Simba," will be out in 2002). Gallies are currently available.

FBI Special Agent Angela Bivens has just won a race and sex discrimination lawsuit against the Bureau. All she ever wanted to be was a field agent. Be careful what you wish for. Her cynical superiors throw her a bone: helping a befuddled D.C. Police Department investigate the brutal kid-napping and murder of two teenage girls, as well as the macabre, ritualized ex-



Chambers is currently an Assistant Professor of Communications at Central Piedmont in Charlotte, NC.

ecution of rival drug dealers. The cops say it's all gang-related. Angela is about to discover the unspeakable horror that is the truth. Though the stress of the case snaps Angela's spirit, fate pushes her into a love affair with every woman's dream—the handsome and mercurial P.T. "Trey" Williams. Lawyer, lobbyist, scion of an elite family in the Nation's Capitol. Connected from the Hill to the White House. But Trey has a secret. His twin brother Ganney—now a Navy SEAL, now a hopeless heroin addict nicknamed "Pluto" because he's "cold, black and far out" like the planet—might be an accomplice in the very crimes Angela's sworn to solve.

"Vivid, intelligent writing; characters that embody everything that is noble or terrifying in the soul...it's Silence of the Lambs and Seven meets Waiting to Exhale and Walter Mosely. The effect is stunning!" —Dolores Barclay, Arts & Entertainment Editor,

The Associated Press (AP)

## NU Playwrighter Honored

Local Roxbury resident, Ed Bullins, a Northeastern University professor of theater and artist-in-residence, will be featured in the photographic work and traveling exhibition, "African American Writers: Portraits and Vision," published by the University Press of Mississippi this fall.

"It was an extraordinary experience to immerse myself in Ed Bullins' work and photograph him in a way that reflects my sense of who he is in this world," said Lynda Koolish, editor of the work and professor of English and comparative literature at San Diego State University.

A Philadelphia native, Bullins began his playwrighting way-of-life at

a very young age, since then he has become one of the 20th century America's foremost playwrights.

Bullins has been awarded numerous honors including the New York Drama Critics Award for "The taking of Miss Janie," Obie Awards for "In New England Winter" and "The Fabulous Miss Marie," a recent AUDELCO Award and the Black Theatre Festival Living Legend Award.

The photograph of Bullins by Koolish is currently in an exhibit at San Diego State University and is in the process of being considered for exhibition at the Schomburg Center for Research of Black Culture in New



## The Third Annual Six Flags Trip

It's almost the end of the year...before you embark on your summer endeavors...finish off the year with a BANG!!! The Onyx Informer, NBSA, and the Ujima Program invites all Northeastern Students to join us for a day of fun. The Third Annual Six Flags trip is scheduled for June 2nd, 2001. We will spend a fun filled day at the park, transportation will be provided. For more information and tickets, please contact Mrs. Boykin, at the John D. O' Bryant African-American Institute, (617) 373-4912.



## THE ONYX INFORMER

Serving the People of the Diaspora Since 1972

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# Nubian

Dear Ms. Nubian,

Yo, here's my situation str8 up and down. It's my fourth year here at NU and I've had my eye on this girl. She's not dating anyone at the present time, and neither am I. We're both really good friends, we hang out all the time. We're such good friends that during last years housing selection we decided to get our apartments in Willis right across from each other. On occasion we'll go to the movies, the mall or out to dinner. For the past year or so my feelings for her have grown and I want to ask her out and move our friendship forward to another level. Yet everytime I get up to ask her out I punk out, because I'm afraid she'll reject me. In doing so it'll ruin our friendship. What should I do?

Confused Individual  
Junior, Engineering

Dear Confused Individual,

First of all, you need to figure why you believe so strongly that she will definitely reject you. Has she said to you that she would never date you? Or, is it your own insecurity that is holding you back. Remember that you create your own reality, so if you believe she will reject you, you will

act that outcome into existence, whether it is consciously or not. My advice to you is while you are here at NU, use this time to get to know yourself better and build your confidence. I believe that the best relationships are the one's where people first start out as friends. However, no relationship will work if either one or both people are not secure with himself or herself. In the meantime, you and your friend can continue to get to know each other better, as individuals. Think about this, if you are afraid of ruining your friendship because of her rejection, imagine how much your friendship may be ruined if the two of you start dating seriously and it doesn't work out because you weren't ready!

Ms. Nubian

*Well its the end of the school year...and that only means one thing for me...Vacation!!! I gotta bounce and take care of some things up in NY for the summer. Its been great so far, and I love hearing from everyone who has asked me for some advice. I can be reached at Onyxnubian@yahoo.com during the summer, if you have any questions. Please feel free to hit me up...until September...Peace, Love, and Happiness!!!*

## Featured Artist India Arie

Acoustic Soul, the title of India Arie's debut album, is the tale of a young black woman trying to define her place in today's society. The first single entitled "Video", is a song about how black women need to love them. Arie lets all women know that they can love themselves without having a supermodel figure, expensive clothes, or even taking their clothe off in a music video. On her dedication to black men called "Brown Skin", Arie continues to show the wide range of her lush alto vocals. This album is at it's best



on tracks like "Wonderful" and "Promises" where Arie sings without the accompaniment of her guitar, and her voice is left alone to soar.

This critically acclaimed album is a solid debut effort which gives the world high expectations for India Arie. Although she has been described as a combination of Lauryn Hill and Nina Simone, one listen to her album

will make it clear that the best way to describe India Arie is "acoustic soul."

- Naa-Solo Tetley  
Onyx Staff

## "Hurricane" Hits NU

By Kyisha Brooks  
Onyx Staff

Many awaited the presence of a man whose life experience was one of great struggle. Though we all saw the movie "Hurricane", Denzel Washington didn't do justice for the energy of the real man Rubin "Hurricane" Carter. He discussed his life story, than begun to tell the audience in attendance in Blackman Auditorium the importance of life in its present state and not its past wrongs. Though his life as well as the life of many other strong positive African-Americans have been through trial and tribulation, to him today is the time to change and make it (life) work for you as an individual and a people. Carter states, "That today is what is because yesterday was what it was."

Carter's energy field Blackman Auditorium with laughter and knowledge. As he walked across the stage telling his life story he also gave truth to the country that we as Americans reside in. Carter told us that there are more people in prison in this country than any other country, and African-American men between the ages of 20 - 27 have already been tagged to be convicted.

This was a serious fact to him, that America has placed claim on the lives of people of color. Yet, he feels as if young people in college are on the right track. Carter highest form of education was the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Carter states that he, "Received his BA from the streets of oppression...and a PHD in prison brutality." He survived and continues to do as long as he possibly can. Many say he was a victim of racism, and his case was a symbol of the justice system underlying racism. In his eyes it was more reason than racism. The jury in his case was feed words that were untrue, as a result he was convicted to prison. In his heart and mind he feels that even though

the jury found him guilty, it didn't mean he was guilty.

Carter raised the notion that people are hypnotized by words, expressing the power of words in general. Quoting Malcolm X, "We have been bamboozled, tricked, and hood winked", due to this notion that what people say is what is? When in reality it's the power of "acting on what you know, not what others believe."

It took Carter 20 years in prison, 10 years of which he spent in solitary confinement to realize the idea that words make the world go around. He also finds that not only are people hypnotized by words, they are also hypnotized by time. Carter states that man created time and one should worry about the eternal now. He gave his heart to each phrase that rushed out of his mouth.

Carter asked the audience, "What is freedom?" For what seemed as an easy question, no one in attendance could answer Carter's question. Carter went on to say that freedom is an image, "There's no such thing as freedom but there is free from." It's as if he was letting everyone know that there is no such thing as what freedom is believed to be.

While he was in solitary confinement he knew he wanted to be out of what he considers the lowest level of existence without being dead. "Darkness helps one to see the way things are. When you can't see out, you can see within clearer."

While continuing with his life story and his ordeals, he sent a message out to the students to, "Express all ideas of believing in ones self. You may stumble on something you least expect and the idea that one must do all things with love for self, others and your creator."



"Darkness helps one to see the way things are. When you can't see out, you can see within clearer."

## Album of the Month

The platinum selling R&B crooners of 112 are back with their third album entitled Part III. Fans of 112 who are used to hearing the high pitched vocals of the groups lead singer Slim will be happy to know that on this album the other three members Daron, Q, and Mike all sing which makes this album diverse and more enjoyable. Unlike their first two albums, which were comprised of 112's trademark ballads, the majority of the tracks on Part III are mostly fast tempo dance tracks.

112 wants to portray a maturer im-

age on this album which can be seen in songs such as "Peaches and Cream" and the R. Kelly produced "Do what You Gotta Do." With group member Daron producing 8 of the 12 tracks, and all group members contributing to write 9 of the 12 tracks, 112 shows that they have really grown in their musical capacity. Having managed to stay together for a third album, which seems to be rare in the music industry these days,

112 has definitely placed their mark in the world of R&B with Part III.

- Naa-Solo Tetley  
Onyx Staff



## The Onyx Top Ten Hit List

- 1) 112: Part III
- 2) Tupae: Until the End of Time
- 3) India Arie: Acoustic Soul
- 4) Destiny's Child: Survivor
- 5) Janet Jackson: All For You
- 6) DJ Clue: DJ Clue? The Professional 2
- 7) Case: Open Letter
- 8) Jaheim: Ghetto Love
- 9) Ginuwine: The Life
- 10) Kniffie Brown: Mars/Venus



# THE HATER

**Hater** (ha-ter) n. 1. One who expresses extreme dislike for an issue pertaining to anything in the inhabited world. 2. Term used in opposition of negative criticism. Ex. "You think I'm ugly? Stop being a hater." Etymology: Ebonics, originally Player Hater, and then shortened.

If you haven't realized it yet, The Hater is here to stay like racism. Speaking of racism, I have been struggling with trying not to hate on people who don't think racism exists anymore. With this in mind, I have decided to use this platform to teach a crash course in Racism 101. OK, for Black people: If you have any White friends and you have ever heard them end a statement with, "Oh, but you're different," that's RACISM. If you have ever been pulled over by the police for reasons they haven't thought of yet, that is RACISM. If you go to a fancy restaurant and get up to go to the bathroom, and you are addressed, "Excuse me waiter," that's RACISM. If while you're at the same restaurant, the waiter lets you know that they don't accept food stamps, that's RACISM. If anybody refers to you as a N\*\*\*\*r, wait, if anyone who is not Black refers to you as, wait, if anyone who is not Black, but grew up around Black people, wait, if anyone who is not Black, did not grow up around Black people, but listens to Hip Hop....OK forget that one. If you go into KFC and the cashier asks if

you would like a watermelon with that, that's RACISM. If you ever go to a Klu Klux Klan meeting unarmed and get beat down, YOU'RE AN IDIOT!

I hope that is sufficient, but before I end this session, I must address forms of racism towards other races just so we all understand that it is not just a "Black" issue. First is, Asians. If you have ever tried to start a fight with someone, but they backed down because they thought you knew Kung Fu, that's RACISM, but at least you didn't get your @ss beat. If you have ever been given a job because it was assumed that you were a lot smarter than you actually were, that's RACISM, but you are a damn fool if you complain. I guess Asians are not the best example.

OK, White people, if you have ever been picked last to play basketball, deal with it. If you have ever been made fun of because you can't dance, oh well. If anyone ever accused you of trying to be Black, give up because it's not possible. If anybody ever called you the devil, then, OK, that's messed up. There's no way around that one.

Latinos, if you have ever been treated like a Black person, it is because you are. Oh yeah, it's also RACISM. Therefore, refer to the beginning of the course to learn indicators of RACISM. However, add anything connected to people thinking you are

a mechanic or janitor.

If you have any questions regarding this lesson, feel free to email me at [hater@smokinweed.com](mailto:hater@smokinweed.com). And if you enjoyed it, look out for my next course offering, SEXISM 101: "If I'm a b\*\*\*\*h, you're mama's a b\*\*\*\*h."

With all this educating, I almost forgot that I was supposed to be The Hater. Let me just keep this short. I still got beef with BET, but now it is unforgivable. They fired Tavis Smiley for good. I never thought this day would come. And what was it over? Bob Johnson, CEO of BET said it was because Tavis had gotten an exclusive interview that was of high demand, but he never offered it to BET. "Hey Bob, maybe it was because he didn't want you to have to stress over whether it would be on before a video show or after a different video show that plays the same videos in a different order. You have a hard enough job as it is. My only question is how in the hell are you going to terminate Tavis Smiley, but you still got that corny-ass A.J. who still can't get his lines right and can't figure out if he wants to tug it out with cornrows or be righteous with locks. Am I the only one that wants to smack him in his face for living? One word of advice, Bob, "Once you sell-out, get the hell out." That's my two pennies in this land of dollars and no sense.

Peace.

## BMG Music Contest

This year's last contest will require you to do a little research on your part. However the reward that will follow will leave your whip bumpin' and your head noddin' with some new hot tunes BMG Records will be supplying you as their monthly Onyx Contest winner. To win some HOT, FREE, YES FREE, CD's all you need to do is answer this question: Where was the multi-platinum artist Tyrese born? All you need to do is be the first individual to answer this question and you'll win free music from BMG and the Onyx Informer!!!

Last month's SNAP contest winner is George Paul III. Many people sent in their best responses. There were a lot of good SNAPS, from everyone who sent their best SNAPS in. However George was able to come up with the best SNAPS of them all. George is currently a Middler, and a graphic design major. He was raised here in Boston and graduated from the John D. O'Bryant School of Math and Science. On his free time he likes to write poetry and being involved in other forms of art. After graduation George plans to either work for an Advertising company, or a design company as an art director, or run his own business. Whichever career path George plans to direct himself in the Onyx wishes him well.

See next page

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that links you to all of the support services and academic  
assistance available throughout Northeastern.



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## Rubens from page 16

of bond with the coach, but that was never reached.

**Onyx:** The team went to the American East tournament, how was that?

**Rubens:** We were sixth in the conference. I still think we under-achieved though we beat the third seed Drexel, people had our expectations so low, we could have done better.

**Onyx:** Overall are you satisfied with your play and did you fulfill your goals on the team?

**Rubens:** Somewhat, because I did start a game, in the Hoosier Classic against Colorado State, and that was one of my main goals. But after that game my season went down, my minutes were cut, and I was never told why.

**Onyx:** That seems like a lack of communication between player and coach.

**Rubens:** Total lack of communication, and that is what usually happens with Coach Keeling, I was never told why I wasn't getting in the game or given an explanation. And no I never reached my main goals; I had high ex-

pectations for myself.

**Onyx:** What have you learned from being on the team?

**Rubens:** I learned that college basketball is not always what sports is about. There are bigger things that go on, some decisions are not in your control. In high school I played for

LaSalle Academy, playing with some big time players like Ron Artes (Chicago Bulls), Sham God Wells, and you always had to work hard.

**Onyx:** Did you benefit from being on the team and did it affect your studies?

**Rubens:** I did benefit because I made a lot of good friends such as Lasii, Jean Francois, Charles Cranford, we really got close and made good friendships.

As far as my studies I messed up big time, I was very tired when taking classes and being on the team at the same time.

**Onyx:** So you didn't get any breaks from being on the team from professors?

**Rubens:** No, players don't get

breaks, that is just a rumor.

**Onyx:** So could we say that your studies also affected your decision not to play next year?

**Rubens:** I have to get my priorities straight in life in general. I spoke with my family about the decision, and we felt I am getting old and I have to get my priorities straight. Basketball here wasn't a real priority because I had no control over it.

**Onyx:** Besides sports, how do you feel about Northeastern University in general?

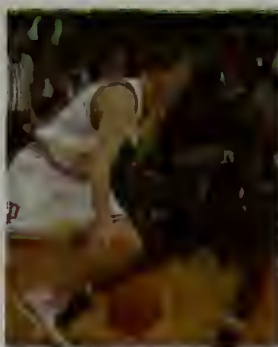
**Rubens:** It is a good school, good atmosphere, it could be more diverse. **Onyx:** How do you feel about Northeastern University taking away the John D. O'Bryant African-American Institute?

**Rubens:** I think that is bad, because I did some research, and that building is one of the few buildings you can call an African-American Institute along the east coast at any college, and to take it away would be total disrespect to African-American students.

**Onyx:** Any Shout-Outs

**Rubens:** To my friends Karim Evans, Ricky Crawford, Jean Francois, Daouda Leonard, Patrick Sheehan, Lunzya Manda, and my girlfriend Camille Townsend.

Interview by: Angelo Lynn  
Onyx Staff



Rubens' best performance of the year was in the opening round of the Hoosier Classic against Indiana as he was a perfect 3-3 from the field, 2-2 from the line and 1-1 from beyond the arc, in 17 minutes of play.

As the first winner of our contest, George won CD's courtesy of BMG.

Please send your answers and replies to Onyxinformer@yahoo.com...Until next year...Peace

### "SNAPS" by George

"Your mother is so tall she did a cartwheel and kicked Jesus in the back."

"You smell so bad that when you went to take a shower the dial soap said I'll call you back later."

"Your mom is so dumb she thought Meow Mix was a rap album for cats."

"Your mom is so old I told her to act her age and she died."

The Onyx Sports Squad is recruiting new writers for the sports section...If you have an interest in sports and you want to be heard contact us at Onyxsports@yahoo.com

## 2001 NU Hall of Famers

The Northeastern University Hall of Fame presented seven new members to President Richard Freeland for formal induction on Friday May 18 at Matthews Arena.

The seven honorees were Katasha Artis (women's basketball, '95), Tom Burke (baseball, football, '76), Dan Callahan (men's basketball, '95), Walter "Buzz" Congram (head coach men's crew), Stan Hillier (football, '78), Erik Nedeau (men's track and field, '94), and Bruce Racine (men's ice hockey, '88).

Katasha Artis, '95, is arguably the finest women's basketball player in Northeastern history. She was America East Rookie of the Year in 1992-93 and Player of the Year in both 1993-94 and 1994-95. She was also a District I All-American after her junior and senior seasons.

Artis left the program as the Huskies' second-highest career scorer (1551 points) and second all-time leading rebounder (785).

Tom Burke, '76, had the rare distinction of being voted the Team MVP for both football and baseball. An All-New England selection in baseball as a junior and senior, he stole 66 consecutive bases in his career and batted over .300 all four years. In football, he was a crafty halfback who averaged over five yards per carry and 18 yards per pass reception.

Dan Callahan, '95, was one of Northeastern's greatest basketball centers and rebounders. He holds the school record for most rebounds in a season (364 in 1994-95) and lists second among NU's career leaders

(1007). He was voted America East All-Conference as a junior and senior and was elected captain and Team MVP in his final campaign.

Walter "Buzz" Congram retired this year after leading the NU men's crew program for 24 years. He leaves behind an 83-63 dual race record plus two IRA victories in 1988 and 1991. At the Eastern Sprints, he placed the Huskies in the finals 14 of 23 years while winning one silver and three bronze medals.

Stan Hillier, '78, was one of the toughest defensive tackles in NU football history. He was credited with career totals of 104 unassisted tackles and 57 quarterback sacks. Hillier was voted All-New England as a junior in 1975 and then All-New England, All-East and All-America as a senior in 1976. He also won a New England Gold Helmet Award and was voted the Team MVP in his final season.

Erik Nedeau, '94, was one of the nation's top middle distance runners during his NU career. He won nine individual New England titles and 10 America East crowns. He was voted All-America three times and placed third in the 1992 NCAA indoor 800 and second in the 1994 NCAA outdoor 1500.

Bruce Racine, '88, was the college goalie of the 1980's. He won All-America honors in 1987 and 1988. In 1985 and 1988 he led Northeastern to Beanpot titles and garnered MVP honors in both tournaments.

## Did You Know???

### Jesse Owens

World record-holder Jesse Owens had one qualifying jump left at the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin. He had fouled on four of his first five tries. And he was angry because Nazi ruler Adolf Hitler, with his misguided notions of Aryan supremacy, had just delivered an insult by departing from the stadium as Owens began his jumps. Suddenly, quietly, his chief rival, German long jumper Luz Long, said to Owens, "...remeasure your steps... take off six inches behind the foul board." Thus

was an unlikely friendship born between an African-American and a German. As a result Jesse Owens was inspired to capture an unprecedented four Olympic gold medals with record performances in the long jump, the 100- and 200-meter dashes, and the 400-meter relay. Positive experiences such as the Olympic Games revelation by Luz seemed to balance the racial-prejudice negatives in Jesse Owens' life as an African American. This led to his moderate ideologies and his admiration of the principles



and practices of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Owens parlayed his international track-star reputation into jobs helping his people. One such job was as national director of physical education for African-Americans with the Office of Civilian Defense (1940-42),

which he called "the most gratifying work I've ever done." But for all his desire to help others, Jesse Owens was largely a self-made man. A frail, sickly child, he developed into a strong runner, winning national high school titles in three events. Dozens of colleges pursued Owens, but he chose to go to

Ohio State, where he had to work his way through school. Owens stunned the nation in 1935 when he set three world records and equaled another in one day, running a 20.3-second 220-yard dash, 22.6 in the 220-yard low hurdles, a record-tying 9.4-second 100 yard dash, and long-jumping 26'-8-1/4... a mark that was not surpassed for 25 years. And amid all his deserved adulation, Jesse Owens maintained his perspective. "Life," he said, "is the real Olympics."

The "Did You Know" section features a different individual who has made a major contribution to the African Diaspora in order to help the advancement of life for others to follow.



# ONYX SPORTS

**I can do something else besides stuff a ball through a hoop. My biggest resource is my mind.**  
- Kareem Abdul-Jabbar

## Rubens Speaks it Straight

Rubens Amedee, is a sophomore from Far Rockaway Queens, NY. He is currently studying Engineering Technology here at Northeastern. This past 2000-2001 NCAA Basketball Season Rubens was a walk-on addition to the men's team. He plays the guard position, standing 5'8", and weighing in at 157lbs. At the end of this past season Angelo Lynn caught up with Rubens, to get a first hand account of the experiences a walk-on for a mens college basketball team goes through during a regular season.

**Onyx:** Can you give us a brief description of your basketball background?

**Rubens:** My first sport is actually baseball, I moved from Flatbush, Brooklyn to Far Rockaway Queens. My parents made the move because they thought Queens would be a better neighborhood, which really wasn't the case.

**Onyx:** Who are some of the influence in basketball in your life?

**Rubens:** No one really influenced

me. I just went to the local park and played with a bunch of kids that's how I learned to play ball. My father actually played for the Jamaican Basketball Olympic team a while back that's where I get my some of my athletic talent from.

**Onyx:** So you are a walk-on on the men's basketball team, what made you try out for the team?

**Rubens:** In high school I got recruited by a couple schools, mostly the colleges who recruited me were suburban schools or out in the woods, I wanted to be in the city. I went for the team, for a couple of reasons, one major reason was the strength and conditioning, and Coach Keeling really pushed me to try out for the team.

**Onyx:** What type of work ethic and attitude do you bring to the team?

**Rubens:** In high-school I was always one of the hardest workers on the team, because I wasn't always the best player and I am not the tallest so I have always had to work hard. At first I was told my role on the team would be to make the other players better. That kind of offended me, because I didn't want to be just a practice player, I wanted to contribute on the floor.

**Onyx:** So do you want to play for the team next year?

**Rubens:** No, I rather not. People don't understand that being a walk on is one of the hardest things you will have to

do. They have these things called boosters, who want to see the scholarship athletes play. To much behind the scenes work going on, I thought basketball was where the better man plays, whoever works hardest will be

on the court, but it is not like that.

**Onyx:** What were some of the problems with the team and its many losses?

**Rubens:** We took a long time to come together as a team. We never came together as a team until maybe the end of the season when we beat Drexel. It was mainly a lack of respect for coaching and players, people didn't trust each other, and you can't win like that.

**Onyx:** How would you describe Coach Keeling and his coaching?

**Rubens:** Coach Keeling is a good man, and he intends well, but I don't think he ever laid down the rules and made people respect him. You have to earn respect, and he never earned respect from the "star players" on the team.

**Onyx:** Did it matter that Keeling is a Black coach, did the players react differently?

**Rubens:** Honestly, I think a lot of players thought they had some type

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Rubens' this past season saw limited action at the point guard spot as a freshman walk-on.

## Husky Sports Round Up

By: The Onyx Sports Squad

Coach White of the Women's Basketball team in the past few weeks has been honored with being named to the USA Basketball Collegiate Committee as well as being named an assistant coach on the 2001 U.S. Women's Junior World Championship team.

She will be joining the likes of UConn's Head Coach Geno Auriemma who will be the head coach of the Junior team. Also joining the Junior team as an assistant will be Oklahoma's Sherri Coale. In White's first season at NU she coached the young women's team to a 13-16 record. A lot will be expected from Coach White and the returning NU Womens Basketball squad. This year was truly a learning experience for the coaching staff and the team. They should be on the verge of turning things around. Don't be surprised if



"It will be an honor to be associated with this team as we represent the United States against the world's best competition."

this young team is one of the leaders of the American East Conference.

When you think of Marion Jones, the late Flo-Jo, you think of women who move like the wind and at times even faster. Well you can add Nikiya Reid to that last of women who can leave you in their dust. Reid, a Senior Sprinter has already placed first in the 100 at the Maryland Invitational, which NU came in third place. She has also won the 200 (D-II), in the Florida State Relays. Reid also won the 55, the 55 hurdles, and the 200 at the New England Indoor Championship at Tufts. With the way Reid is tearing up the track, it seems as if she could be destined for the 2004 Olympics.

Seeing this is the last time you'll here from us this year, look for us next year in our first issue in early October...One!



Reid has been this year's Most Outstanding Performer of the American East Championship.

## ...and the "Answer" is...

By: The Onyx Sports Squad

When Allen Iverson first came into the league he was questioned for leav-

ing school early, many questions loomed about his ability to play with players who were bigger than he was. They questioned his motives on the court from his style of play to his attitude towards the game itself. The media labeled him as a "one man team", a "gunner", a "me first" player. After five years of playing with the world's best, he has proven to the league that he is the "Answer."

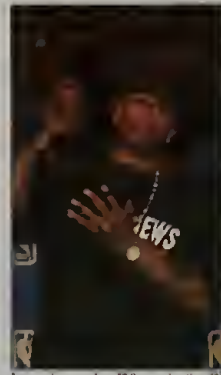
During this 2000-2001 NBA season, Iverson led the Sixers to an Eastern Conference-best 56 victories, the most for the franchise since 1985, and their first Atlantic Division title since 1990. Iverson led the league with a career high in points

(31.1ppg), steals (2.51spg), and minutes played (42.0). He also to recorded a career best 54 point performance in early January against Cleveland, he went on to top that performance the following week with a 51 point game.

Iverson received a total of 1,121 points and received 93 of a possible 124 first-place votes in order to win the 2000-2001 MVP award. A panel of sportswriters and broadcasters throughout the United States and Canada do the voting for MVP.

When asked if he had ever imagined himself winning an MVP award he said, "I didn't know because of all the baggage I came here with," Iverson

said. "I was 20 years old and people wanted me to be 30. I had no space for error. But I never stopped and worked on all the things people said I couldn't do and now I'm the MVP of the league. It's something I always wanted."



Iverson is averaging 32.9 ppg, shooting 40% and averaging nearly 3 steals per game in the '00-'01 NBA Playoffs.

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